

Research Activity Panel: FINAL Meeting Minutes  
Moss Landing Marine Laboratories Norte Facility  
Friday February 13, 1998  
09:00 - 12:00

Introduction of members and guests (G. Cailliet)

#### Institution Representatives

Greg Cailliet, Moss Landing Marine Labs - Chair  
Rick Starr, U.C. Sea Grant - Vice Chair  
Andrew DeVogelaere, MBNMS - RAP Coordinator  
Lisa de Marignac, MBNMS - SAC Coordinator

Jane Caffrey, ESNERR and ESF  
William Douros, Monterey Bay NMS  
Bruce Jaffe, USGS  
Chris Harrold, Monterey Bay Aquarium  
Deborah Johnston, CA DFG/ Monterey  
Giacomo Bernardi, UCSC  
Mark Stephenson, CDFG/Mar. Pollution Studies Lab

#### Special Advisors

Gary Sharp, CIRIOS

#### Guests

Aaron King, MBNMS  
Lora Lee Martin, MBEST

#### CONSENT ITEMS:

Modifications to the agenda (G. Cailliet)

The presentation on the Pinniped Population Symposium will follow the Sea Grant presentation.

Approval of the minutes for January 1998 (G. Cailliet)

The January 9, 1998 draft RAP meeting minutes were approved as presented.

#### PRESENTATIONS

Update from the U.C. Sea Grant Extension Program (R. Starr)

Rick Starr, UC Sea Grant, presented an overview of the California/National Sea Grant Program and the UC Sea Grant Extension Program. Approximately 29 Sea Grant Programs exist throughout the country. Funding for the programs is distributed according to the population size within the coastal zone. California's Sea Grant Program receives about \$4 million per year, with the Extension Program receiving 18% of the State's Sea Grant funding. Extension Programs throughout the country typically receive 15%-50% of their state's funding.

The National Sea Grant was originally started to assist United States fishing fleets in developing more productive fishing methods, and to supply engineering solutions for problems associated with coastal erosion. Today, the Sea Grant Program works to enhance and conserve fisheries and aquaculture, to improve coastal land-use planning, and to provide money for

research to help solve applied problems. Money is used very differently from state to state, but the basic structure among the state Sea Grant programs is generally the same.

California's Sea Grant funding is approximately distributed to the following programs:

- Competitive research - \$2-\$2.5 million
- Extension program - \$600,000 - \$800,000
- Administration and communications - \$500,000- \$600,000

Pre-proposals for the competitive research program are submitted in the fall. The best proposals are selected for a range of topics. Projects are rarely funded for more than \$100,000. Funding for student pay is available above the project funding. Projects address current problems in coastal areas. Small (<10k) rapid response grants provide researchers with immediate funding for short term projects without having to go through extensive peer review.

The role of the Extension Program is to solve problems within the coastal zone using research-based information. The UC Sea Grant Extension Program is headquartered at UC Davis and consists of seven marine advisors and two specialists. The specialists are currently focusing on seafood processing and fisheries management. Advisors work on current local topics. Rick, as a marine advisor, focuses on research on fisheries-related issues (fish distributions, life histories, habitat associations) and outreach.

Pinniped Population Symposium (A. King)

Aaron King, MBNMS, provided an overview of FAMB - Fishermen's Alliance of Monterey Bay - whose exclusive charter is to address the issue of pinniped predation on salmon. The group is currently funding pinniped population research at Moss Landing Marine Labs and is hoping to fund Caroline Pomeroy's research on fisheries.

On August 28, 1997, a symposium on pinniped populations was held at the annual American Fisheries Society meeting in Monterey, and was followed by an evening public forum. The post-symposium publication is now available and a second, smaller session between conservationists and fishermen (viewed by academia) is scheduled for April 4, 1998 at the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

Gary Sharp expressed concern that the salmon issue not be focused solely on fishermen and pinnipeds, but rather the major upstream issues.

Greg Cailliet emphasized that the Sanctuary's role is to open communication channels and that the symposium served this purpose.

Overview: UC Monterey Bay Education, Science and Technology (MBEST) Center (G. Bernardi)

Giacomo Bernardi introduced Lora Lee Martin, Director of MBEST. The center is located on 1100 acres of property in Fort Ord and is intended to help the region create an industry of research and education in marine sciences technology. Six hundred acres will be used for habitat maintenance and five

hundred acres will be developed for an industry center.

The vision of MBEST is to create an interactive place to link research activities to the international market place. MBEST would like to create a STEP Institute - Science and Technology Education and Policy to serve as an international gateway. The function of MBEST will be to serve as a facilitator of research institutions in the area through student training and placement.

UC MBEST has received federal funding for the following:

- \$30,000 - utility plan
- \$500,000 - wastewater pumping
- \$500,000 - water and sewer mains
- \$100,000 - first new building
- \$200,000 - planning
- \$200,000 - remediation

Construction will start on the first new building by the end of the year. MBEST has the option to sell or lease the land, but hopes to mainly lease land.

Four research opportunities are now available:

- groundwater characterization at Ft. Ord
- ecological studies on the Superfund site
- on-line real-time chemical analysis of the Superfund site
- policy studies on what can be done with the Superfund site and remediated water

Greg suggested that the Marine Biodiversity Proposal and a general-use regional laboratory might fit into MBEST's program. Bill Douros expressed concern about the possibility that companies who are enticed to the Monterey area and then are prohibited to test the technology within the Sanctuary.

1997 Review of the MBNMS Research Program (A. De Vogelaere)

Andrew DeVogelaere handed out and reviewed a summary of activities of the Sanctuary's 1997 Research Programs. RAP members suggested that it may be time to update the scientific plan.

## DISCUSSION

Introduction of new MBNMS Superintendent, William Douros, to the RAP, with a discussion on the future of MBNMS related research (G. Cailliet)

Bill Douros, MBNMS, presented an overview of his educational background and professional experience. Bill expressed his belief that he and Andrew are aligned on ideas for the Research Program and presented ideas on possible RAP involvement:

- Build-up of the Research Program
- Development of a comprehensive monitoring plan, with the Sanctuary acting as a coordinator
- "State of the Bay" assessment
- Planning for expanding human populations to the coastal area

- Developing the Sanctuary as a place that provides a service

Discussion ensued on the role and emphasis of the Research Program within the Sanctuary Program. Bill emphasized that the Research component of the Sanctuary needs to be brought up to what it should be as one of the three major goals of the Sanctuary Program.

#### SHORT INFORMATION ITEMS

Verbal items:

SAC membership update (L. de Marignac)

The new SAC has been appointed and will be sworn-in at the March 13, 1998 SAC meeting. Four new members sit in primary seats.

Sanctuary Currents 1998 program (C. Pomeroy/R. Starr)

Rick needs volunteers to judge the research posters.

El Nino

USGS is monitoring beach changes and will present results at a later meeting.

Written items (no discussion unless there are questions):

KTEH Volunteers (A. King)

I am organizing a Monterey Bay Sanctuary Evening where we volunteer to staff the phone bank at the local PBS Television Station during their Spring fundraising drive. We are trying to schedule for Thursday, March 12, 1998, from 6:00 to 11:30 PM. If you can help out with this effort, please let me know (preferable by e-mail reply) and I will add you to our list. We will car pool up to the studio on the night of the event. Please contact me if you have questions (647-4257; aking@lobos.mbnms.nos.noaa.gov).

Fishery Resources (R. Starr)

The California Sea Grant College System published a review titled Fishery Resources of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. For information on how to order a copy, call (619) 534-4446.

El Nino storm impacts (A. De Vogelaere)

A summary of the storm/flood impacts to the MBNMS will be presented at the March SAC meeting.

Research Institution Video (K. Evans)

The Research video is on hold until the WQPP video is completed in mid February.

Handouts available:

Sanctuary Currents '98 flyers

MBNMS Permit Report

Proceedings from the Symposium on Pinniped Populations

ADJOURN